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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, April 13, 2020

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FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 13, 2020

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Old Main-Champ Hall

Present: Patrick Belmont (President), Becki Lawver (Past-President), Timothy Taylor (President-Elect), Noelle Cockett (Ex-officio), Frank Galey (Ex-officio), Christopher Monz, Erin Davis, Don Busenbark, Robert Wagner, Jan Thornton, Michele Hillard, Thomas Lachmar, Yoon Lee, Paul Barr, Benjamin George, Zsolt Ugray, Nancy Hills, Richard Heflebower, Jessica Lucero,

Absent: N/A

Guests: Renee Galliher, Heidi Kesler, Katie Jo North, David Farrelly

Call to Order - Patrick Belmont

[Approval of Minutes](#) – March 16, 2020

Minutes approved as distributed.

University Business - Noelle Cockett, President | Frank Galey, Provost

Things have slowed down a little bit and we are in a good place with classes going online. In a few weeks summer semester will start. Holding budget hearings with VP and Deans where they bring forward one-time and ongoing requests. This year we are telling individuals that they are limited on the new money they can expect to get. Until there is a clearer message from the legislature, they may be holding back money until October or December. There will be another legislative session in May or June to see how they will look forward to the FY21 session. Won't know about ongoing money until then. Hold on and don't make drastic changes. Did get notification of CARES funding. There is about \$8.7M coming from the federal government to help students with the COVID19 issues. USU hopes to be able to distribute money that was received to help with tuition, concerns about summer semester and concerns about lost jobs. The institution will also get money \$8.7M to reimburse additional costs incurred during the COVID pandemic. This would include the expense for online class delivery, equipment, salaries, etc. The university will move forward with promotion and tenure increases. Waiting until the legislature meets for salary compensation for FY21. USU is currently satisfied with our concurrent enrollment. The University has been offering some general education courses to high school students. The problem with concurrent enrollment – reimbursement is only at \$15 per credit hour. This does not even come close to what the institution's costs are and so we are not looking at expanding right now.

Agreed to administer IDEA scores. They will not be included in the database and will only be visible to the faculty members. Looking for aggregate trends that will help us. Contemplating sending out a short survey to get info to make sure people know they are being heard. None of these will go into dossiers. Sent to department heads and School of Graduate studies a fact sheet on graduate application. Might be good to get some feedback from the faculty as to what did and didn't work. Insurance underwriting for grad students has increased significantly. We are working with the deans and Dave Cowley to see what can be done. There will be some changes in the upcoming year. Drivers of the increase was the dependent benefits which were well over \$1M and exceeded the premium expectation. Other institutions do not offer dependent coverage.

Information

[EPC Monthly Report](#) – April 2, 2020 - Paul Barr

General Education Subcommittee approved 11 courses with designations.

113 Course requests approved.

Academic Standards Subcommittee no meeting (nothing to report).

Motion to move EPC Monthly Report to Faculty Senate agenda made by Ben George. Seconded by Becki Lawver. Moved to agenda.

Reports

[Committee on Committees](#) Annual Report - Jan Thornton

Motion to move the Committee on Committees Annual Report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Don Busenbark. Seconded by Nancy Hills. Moved to agenda.

Apportionment remains steady at 60 senators. Five alternates remain to be filled. Faculty Senators should plan on serving on a couple of committees. Be sure that faculty can serve the full time with no interruptions.

[Calendar Committee](#) Annual Report - Renee Galliher

Motion to move the Calendar Committee Annual report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Ben George. Seconded by Yoon Lee. Moved to agenda.

See report.

[Recruitment & Retention](#) Annual Report - Heidi Kesler

Motion to move the Recruitment & Retention Annual Report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Tim Taylor. Seconded by Ben George. Moved to agenda.

There was a 3% increase in new student enrollment until COVID 19 hit. Pulled together recruitment strategies during COVID quarantining.

Retention-met the president's goals.

Old Business

[404](#) – Student Involvement in Faculty Searches (second reading) - David Farrelly

Develop a coherent mechanism for a procedure where students can be involved in the hiring of faculty members. Intention is not to force students to participate but to encourage departments/units to look at using them. The Department Head Executive Council is universally supportive of this change.

Motion to move to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Ben George. Seconded by Erin Davis. Moved to agenda.

New Business

Faculty Senate President Elect - Patrick Belmont

Have a volunteer for the President-Elect position. Boyd Edwards has agreed to serve in this capacity.

Adjourn: 4:25 pm